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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/626,206	07/24/2003	Naomitsu Tsugiiwa	3005-49	9676

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EXAMINER
RENDON, CHRISTIAN E

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
3714	

MAIL DATE	DELIVERY MODE
01/24/2008	PAPER

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

PTOL-90A (Rev. 04/07)

	Application No.	Applicant(s)
	10/626,206	TSUGIIWA, NAOMITSU
Office Action Summary	Examiner	Art Unit	
	Christian E. Rendón	3714	

-- *The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address* --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE _3_ MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
  Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on _26 December 2007_.

2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**.   2b) ☒ This action is non-final.

3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

4) ☒ Claim(s) _1-3 and 5_ is/are pending in the application.

    4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.

5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.

6) ☒ Claim(s) _1-3 and 5_ is/are rejected.

7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.

8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.

10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a)☐ accepted or b)☐ objected to by the Examiner.

    Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).

    Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).

11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).

    a)☐ All b)☐ Some * c)☐ None of:

      1.☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.

      2.☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.

      3.☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

    * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)

2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)

3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08)
    Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____.

4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
    Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____.

5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application

6) ☐ Other: _____.

DETAILED ACTION

Response to Amendment

This office action is in response to the amendment filed on 12/26/07 in which applicant amends

claims 1, 5 and responds to the claim rejections. Claims 1-3 and 5 are still pending.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

Claims 1-3 & 5 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Ambler et al.

(US 2002/0133523 A1) in view of Kruse et al. (US 5,618238) & in further view of Alten et al. (US

2003/0115593 A1).

1.   Ambler discloses a multilingual user interface system that allows a computer user to switch

between the available languages without interrupting the application program (Ambler: Abstract). In

other words, the text of the interface or screen image will change without having to restart the

program from the beginning and losing any of the user's data (Ambler: par. 13, lines 1-3). Therefore,

a user is allowed to resume the program from the same exact point in the program's flow without the

loss of their work. The system displays at the top of the screen a language selection picture (Ambler:

Fig. 2), which comprises of any number of language-specific icons (Ambler: par. 36, line 14) to allow

a user quickly and dynamically update the interface in real time (Ambler: par. 44, lines 12-13). Once a

user clicks on an icon the system updates the text with the new language text (Ambler: par. 35, lines

13-15) by matching the data records of one language with another. The data records are accessed

from a text file called lrcf.ini (Ambler: par. 48, lines 5-6) or the Language Resource Control File

(LRCF), which is a database formatted into blocks of data for each language and each block is

comprised of a data record for each interface control in that language (Ambler: par. 37, lines 6-15).
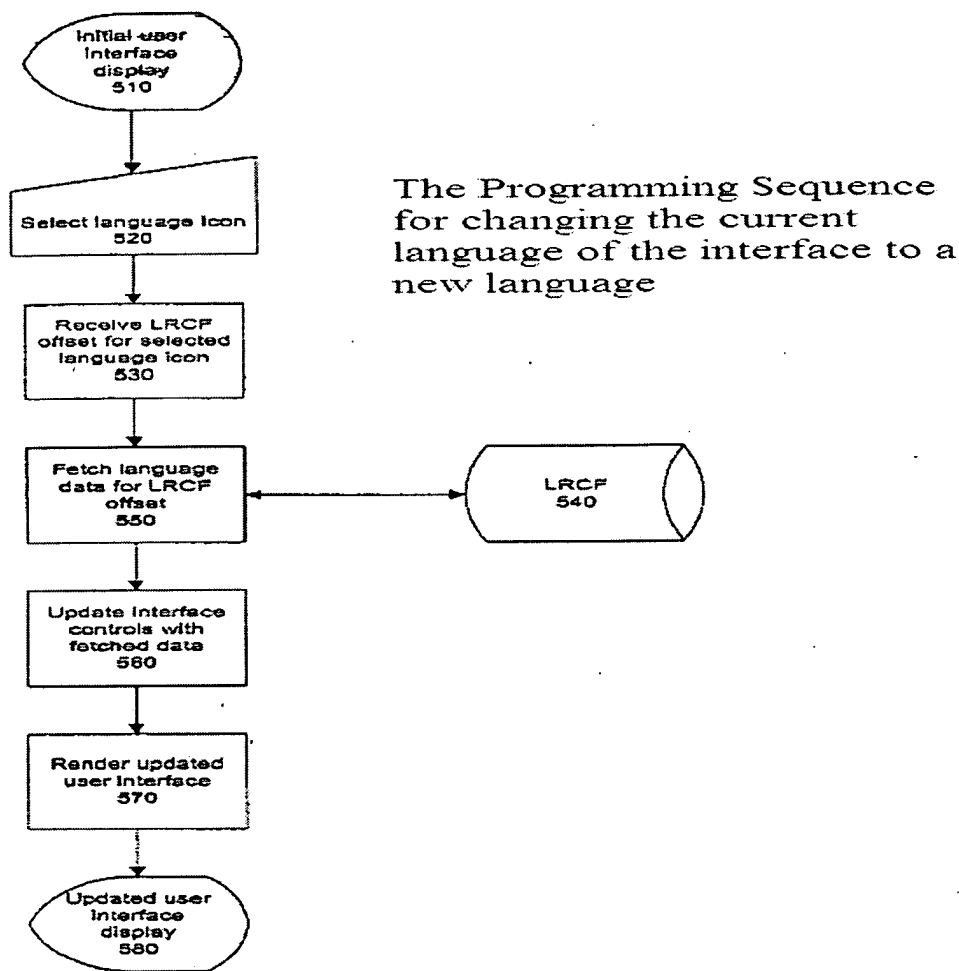
Figure 5

The Programming Sequence for changing the current language of the interface to a new language

2.   The location of Ambler's language selection window allows the user a full view of the screen or

image, allowing the confirmation of the new language text by sacrificing precious work or screen

space. Ambler mentions other forms of presenting the language choices as a separate screen or

window, drop down menu or other user interface controls (Ambler: par. 36, lines 10-12). However,

Ambler fails to disclose cosmetic details like the location and size of the window. In other words, if the

selection window is located in the foreground partially covering the image of the program.

3.   Kruse discloses a user interface for a bowling alley (Kruse: Abstract). The interface allows a

player to select the language for all screen displays (Kruse: col. 8, lines 12-13). The language

selection window is displayed in the foreground partially covering the actual game image' (Kruse: Fig. 7) as a separate window. It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art of user interfaces to combine the functionality of the system disclosed by Ambler with the design implementations of the interface used in the Kruse system as suggested by Ambler. The art combination creates a gaming system that allows a user to dynamically switch between languages without losing their place in the game and sacrificing precious screen space by always displaying the language selection window as a separate window (Ambler: par. 36, lines 10-12).

4.   Furthermore, the invention disclosed by Ambler describes the program flow of the language selection process as a desire to switch between the available languages without interrupting the application program (Ambler: Abstract). The invention forgoes direct translation of the text to insure a proper paraphrasing of the actual meaning. By utilizing the LRCF, the invention can provide an accurate foreign equivalent by replacing character-based text dynamically in real time (Ambler: par. 44, lines 6-13). Therefore any language change is a provisional change since an alteration can occur at any time (Compact Oxford English Dictionary). However, Ambler is silent about providing a provisional change in the language while a user 'flips' or toggles between possible language choices.

5.   Alten discloses a broadcast television (TV) program schedule system (Alten: Abstract) that allows a person to view information: name, start & end time (Alten: par. 113, lines 11-12) about the current channel (Alten: par. 103, line 4-7). When the system is placed in "Flip" mode the user is allowed to navigate through the different TV program channels (Alten: par. 96, lines 5-6) and as the channel changes so does the information displayed in the overlay window (Alten: par. 103, lines 4-10). This allows a person to search for an appropriate channel by viewing all of the information: name, time, images about a TV program automatically (Alten: par. 107, lines 13-17) before committing to the current channel. In other words, a person can watch a TV program while searching

for a more interesting TV program. Therefore it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in graphic user interfaces (GUI) to use an overly window that dynamically changes the language of the text found in the background to fulfill the desire to switch between the available languages without interrupting the application program (Ambler: Abstract) as expressed by Alten. The complete art combination would not sacrifice precious space with a constant language selection menu, lose a user's location within the program flow and dynamically translate the text until the user is certain the current language has been selected.

Response to Arguments

Applicant's arguments filed 12/26/07 have been fully considered but they are not persuasive. The art combination presented clearly presents references that when combined with reasons stated within the references meets the scope of the applicant's claim limitations. Ambler states a desire to switch between the available languages without interrupting the application program (Ambler: Abstract). In other words, Ambler alters the text of an interface or a collection of images in real-time. Kruse provides the teaching of displaying a selection window in the foreground and an application in the background. The connection or logical reasoning to combine the two references is that Ambler suggests using separate windows and/or other user interface controls (Ambler: par. 36, lines 10-12) to display the language selection window. Alten teaches provisionally changing a background based on the information displayed in the foreground. Alten discloses allowing a user to quickly and dynamically update the interface in real time (Ambler: par. 44, lines 12-13) therefore providing a logical reason for one of ordinary skill to combine all three references. The creation of an interface that saves time for the user (Ambler: Abstract) by providing a preview of the application (Alten: par. 107, lines 13-17) in the background based on the language selection made in the foreground (Kruse: Fig. 7 and Alten: Fig. 5). Please see above for further details.
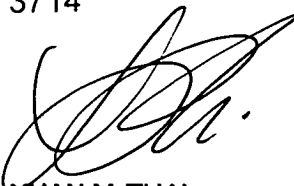
Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Christian E. Rendón whose telephone number is 571-272-3117. The examiner can normally be reached on 9 - 5pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Xuan Thai can be reached on 571-272-7147. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see http://pair-direct.uspto.gov. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

Christian E Rendón
Examiner
Art Unit 3714

CER

XUAN M. THAI
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER